

Before the
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, DC 20554

In the matter of:

Primary Status for Amateur Radio Operation (RM-10165 & RM-10166)
on the Band Segment 2300 to 2305 MHz

Comments of the Roadrunners Microwave Group

The Roadrunners Microwave Group (RMG) is a regional organization of experimentally minded radio amateurs interested in promoting activity on the microwave bands . RMG currently numbers about 30 members, mostly in south Texas, but we have one member in Florida. Our principal aim over our first year of operation was to get as many stations as possible on the 2304 MHz band. This effort was very successful, with now regular activity by almost a dozen of our members. Needless to say, they have invested substantial sums of money and considerable amounts of time and effort into building effective stations for this band. This includes installation of relatively high power amplifiers, high gain antennas and low noise receivers. In many cases, the microwave portion of the equipment is located on high towers near the antenna in order to avoid losses associated with long transmission lines. This makes modification of the equipment, such as would be required if a move to a nearby band segment should become necessary, expensive and difficult. In addition to encouraging its members to get on this band, RMG itself, has constructed several beacons to identify the existence of extended propagation. This has entailed the expenditure of well over \$1,000 of the organization's money. Much of this would be lost if it became necessary to move to another segment of the 13 cm band.

To facilitate the kinds of operation conducted in the 2300 to 2305 MHz segment by RMG members and many other licensed amateurs, it is necessary to minimize interference. A low noise floor is very important.

RMG contends that the 2300 to 2305 MHz segment is important to the future development of microwave activity by radio amateurs. We believe that the best way to preserve it for such future development is by raising its status from Secondary to Primary, as urged by ARRL in its petition. We further contend that all efforts to introduce other services into this band, such as proposed by AeroAstro, should be denied.

Therefore, RMG urges the Commission to adopt the ARRL proposal (RM-10165) and reject that of AeroAstro (RM-10166).

Respectfully submitted:

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